

National Conference of the GKV Society: A brief Report

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The National Conference on “Managing Natural Resources for Sustainable Agriculture” was held at the Rao Krishan Pal Singh Auditorium, Raja Balwant Singh College, Agra (U.P.) during December 8-9, 2018. A brief report on the Conference is presented herewith.

Inaugural Session

The inaugural session was held on 8 December 2018 at the Rao Krishan Pal Singh Auditorium, R.B.S. College Agra (U.P.). On behalf of G.K.V. Society, Dr. Vinay Singh Secretary of the society welcomed the delegates and expressed this event as a unique chance for the scientists and researchers to enhance their academic knowledge. Dr. Singh extended a warm welcome to the Chief Guest, Dr. Kaushik Majumdar, Vice President, Asia and Africa, International Plant nutrition Institute, Gurgaon (Haryana), the Guest of Honour, Dr. V.S. Tomar, former Vice Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur (M.P.), Yuvraj Ambrish Pal Singh, Secretary, Balwant Educational Society Agra, Dr. S.P. Madnawat, Principal, R.B.S. College Agra. Dr. O.P. Srivastava former Director Institute of Agricultural Sciences, B.H.U. Varanasi (U.P.). Dr. J.P. Agrawal, Ex-Head, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Dr. B.P.S. Chauhan, Ex-Head, Department of Botany, R.B.S. College Agra, present in the inaugural ceremony. college officials, delegates from all parts of the country and distinguished guests.

Dr. Vinay Singh, secretary, G.K.V. Society Agra honoured his reported teaches namely Late Dr. B.R. Tripathi, Dr. O.P. Srivastava, Dr. J.P. Agrawal, Dr. B.P.S. Chauhan and Dr. R.K. Singh. Chief Guest, **Dr. Kaushik Majumdar**, Vice President Asia and Africa, IPNI, Gurgaon and Guest of Honour Dr. V.S. Tomar, former Vice Chancellor, JNKVV Jabalpur presented the Fellowships and various Awards of G.K.V. Society for 2018. Life-Time Achievement Award was conferred on Dr. Kaushik Majumdar, Vice President, IPNI, Gurgaon Fellowship of the G.K.V. Society was conferred on (1) **Prof. Ummed Singh**, Dean College of Agriculture, Agriculture University Mandor, Jodhpur (Rajasthan), (2) **Dr. Vipin Chaudhary**, Principal Scientist, CAZRI, Jodhpur, (3) **Prof. O.P. Awasthi**, IARI, New Delhi (4) **Dr. Anchal Dass**, IARI, New Delhi (5) **Dr. N.P. Thakur**, SKUAST-J. Chatha (J & K) and (6) Dr. T. Satyanaryana, IPNI, Gurgaon. **Dr. Man Bodh Prasad**, Principal CORDET Phulpur was awarded the Special Award of the society. Dr. Kaushik Majumdar delivered the inaugural address. The inaugural session was presided by Dr. V.S. Tomar, Former, VC, JNKVV Jabalpur. Inaugural session formally came to a close with a vote of thanks by Dr. R.P.S. Yadav, Chief manager, IFFCO, New Delhi.

In the second session, **Dr. Kaushik Majumdar**, Vice President, IPNI, Gurgaon delivered the lecture on the topic “Nutritional Management for Economic Social and Environmental Sustainability”. He suggested the use of 4-R approach for managing nutritional security without any deterioration in economic, social and environment. Under this approach, fertilizers should be applied in a manner as right time, right place, right amount/rate and right source for enhancing nutrient use efficiency, yield and uptake of nutrients. This also controls the losses of nitrogen by volatilization, P-fixation and leaching loss of other nutrients. 4 R approach used in China enhanced the profitability as compared to farmer practice. Biofertilizers, biostimulant along with fertilizers also improved the yield, nutrient use efficiency and soil health.

Prof. Ummed Singh, Dean Faculty of Agriculture, Agriculture University Mandor, Jodhpur delivered the lecture on the topic “Biofortification: An alternative to mitigate hidden hunger”. He mentioned that biofortification is a feasible, efficient and cost effective way of providing micronutrients to rural and urban poor families. It is a efficient way of mitigating hidden hunger.

A lecture on the topic” Plant sensor assisted precision nitrogen management in cereal crops” was delivered by **Dr. Anchal Dass**, Principal Scientist, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi. He suggested the use of LCC, SPAD meter, Green Seeker and spectro-radiometer approaches for enhancing the nitrogen use efficiency and yield without available nitrogen losses in soil. Under these approaches, supply of nitrogen with plant demand for targeting yield will have positive implications on environment apart from cutting expenses on N-fertilizer and improving crop yield and quality.

Dr. O.P. Aishwath, Principal Scientist ICAR-National Research Centre on seed, Spices, Tabiji, Ajmer (Rajasthan) suggested the use of aromatic plants like lemon grass, palmarosa etc. to manage the problem of soil erosion by water and wind. These plants also can be used in polluted and metal contaminated soil and water. Cumin, coriander and fenugreek like plants are suitable for use in poor soil fertility areas and association with VAM improve utilization efficiency of nutrients and water.**Dr. V.S. Tomar**, former VC, JNKVV Jabalpur chaired the session with Dr. Vinod Kumar Sharma, New Delhi and Dr. T. Satyanarayana, Gurgon as rapporteurs.

In the third session, three papers were presented, **Dr. R.K. Pathak**, Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, C.S. Azad University of Agric. & Technology, Kanpur (U.P.) presented the paper on the topic “Soil health management and practices –Key factors for sustainable productivity”. He made a very comprehensive presentation covering all the facts of soil health problems including physical, chemical and biological degradation of soil. He gave state-wise details of land degradation scenarios and suggested several remedies for restoring and improving soil health and crop productivity. He stressed upon determining crop and soil management history and setting soil management goals for framing better soil management strategies’. He suggested the use of INM, SSNM, use of legumes, biofertilizers, customized fertilizers, organic and inorganic amendments,, inclusion of indigenous sources of P fertilizer like rock phosphate and phospho-gypsum.

Dr. M.S. Yadav, Scientist SE & Head, Remote Sensing Application Center U.P., Lucknow delivered a lecture on the topic “Natural Resources management for sustainable Agriculture using remote sensing and GIS techniques”. This has been a very interesting presentation. He presented nicely the overview of the remote sensing and GIS application in agriculture and natural resources assessment and management in India. He demonstrated the importance and techniques of crop surveys and yield forecast, prospecting of ground water, mapping and monitoring of desertification and land degradation, monitoring of wasteland, mapping of sodic lands for putting in place the reclamation programmes and monitoring of impact of different reclamation / restoration programmes. He emphasized the greater use of remote sensing and GIS for assessing delineating land degradation problem, planning and execution of reclamation programmes and impact assessment.

Dr. Vishwa Nath Mishra, Department of Horticulture, R.B.S. College, Bichpuri Agra (U.P.) made a presentation on the topic “Effect of VAM and Azotobactor on growth, yield and quality of radish.” Through his research results and detailed presentation, he suggested the integrated use of chemical fertilizers, VAM and Azotobactor for meeting the nutritional requirement of vegetable crop for improving vegetable production and thus farmers income. **Dr. Ummed Singh**, Dean Faculty of Agriculture, Agriculture University Mandor Jodhpur (Rajasthan) chaired the session with Dr. Anchal Dass Principal Scientist, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi and **Dr. Diwakar Tripathi** Ex-Professor **Dr. Y.S. Parmar** University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni, Solan (H.P.) as rapporteurs.

In session fourth, delegates were invited to display their research work in the form of posters. The posters presented by scientists / research scholars (Soil Science and Horticulture) were informative, interesting and well laid out. Visitors appreciated the effects of the researchers. The posters were evaluated by a team consisting **Dr. Man Bodh Prasad**, Phulpur, **Dr. R.P.S. Yadav**, IFFCO, New Delhi, **Dr. Pradeep Yadav** KRIBHCO, Bhopal and **Dr. Brajesh Kumar Chaturvedi**, R.B.S. College Bichpuri, Agra.

Cultural Programme

Cultural Programme performed by the students of R.B.S. College, Agra (U.P.) was very marvelous in this technically-rich convention on the evening of 8 December, 2018. All the delegates enjoyed and appreciated this programme.

In the fifth session held on December 9, 2018, five papers were presented. **Dr. Archana U. Singh**, Principal Scientist ICAR-IARI, New Delhi presented a paper on “Nematode management in protected cultivation. She mentioned that an average yield loss in major horticultural crops due to nematodes goes up to 60% under protected cultivation. There is a need to develop viable options for nematode management including use of biocontrol agents, nematicides and antagonistic crops like *Crotolaria* (a green manure crop).

Dr. R.P.S. Yadav, Chief Manager (Agriculture services), IFFCO, New Delhi in his presentation on “Potential of biofertilizers in sustainable agriculture: Insights in to researchable issues and innovative approaches” underlined the importance of biofertilizers in restoration of soil fertility in an

eco-friendly manner without harming the useful soil micro organisms. He discussed in detail about types of biofertilizers, role of biofertilizers in plant nutrition and other aspects of biofertilizers in relation to crop production and soil health.

Dr. Sarvendra Kumar, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi presented a paper on the topic “Conservation agriculture: way for improving soil health and sustainability.” He mentioned that conservation agriculture, a new way forward for sustainable utilization of resources and enhancing productivity to achieve the goals of sustainable and profitable agriculture production. Conservation agriculture improves soil physical quality and chemical quality by improving the soil organic carbon, macronutrients as well as micro nutrient dynamics.

Dr. Swati Singh Tomar, ZARS, Morena (M.P.) presented a paper on the topic “Seasonal incidence of major insect pests in soybean (*Glycine max* L) crop in shivpuri, Madhya Pradesh.” She recorded the seasonal incidence of insect pests in soybean crop. The highest infection was recorded from last week of August and first week of September.

Dr. M.K. Pathak, JNKVV, Jabalpur (M.P.) presented a paper on the topic “High temperature processing and germination effect on soybean minerals for food quality.” Dr. Pathak studied the effect of temperature on mineral composition of soybean in relation to food quality. **Dr. Vipin Chaudhary**, Principal Scientist CAZRI, Jodhpur chaired the session with **Dr. U.P.S. Bhadauria**, RVSKVV, Gwalior and **Dr. Sarvendra Kumar**, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi as rapporteurs.

In session sixth, researches / scientists (Agronomy, Plant Breeding and Plant Protection) presented their posters. These posters were evaluated by a committee consisting **Dr. Diwakar Tripathi**, Dr. Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry Nauni, Solan, **Dr. R.K. Pathak**, CSAUA & T. Kanpur, **Dr. Yogesh Singh**, R.B.S. College Bichpuri, Agra.

Valedictory Session

The valedictory session was held on 9 December, 2018 with Dr. S.P. Madnawat, Principal, R.B.S. College Agra in the chair. The reports of all the technical sessions were presented by respective rapporteurs. Dr. S.P. Madnawat and **Dr. (Mrs.) Archana U. Singh**, New Delhi presented the awards and certificates. On behalf of G.K.V. Society, **Dr. Vinay Singh**, Secretary proposed a vote of thanks. He also thanked the members of various committees in making the Conference a memorable and grand success. At the end of this session, the National conference was declared formally closed by the chairman.